(b) if so, the details of Government's policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the Department of Health's Memorandum dated 1.5.1954 under which the CGHS was constituted, the CGHS facilities are available to such employees/ pensioners who get their salary/pension from the Civil Estimates of the Central Government.

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is an autonomous body and the salary of its employees is not debited/given from the Civil Estimates of the Central Government and as such their employees/retired employees are not automatically eligible for coverage under the CGHS. However, in the past when there was fewer load on the infrastructure of CGHS, the serving employees of EPFO in Delhi were extended CGHS facilities on a cost-to-cost basis.

Due to constraints of infrastructure and manpower, it will not be possible at present for the CGHS to extend its facilities to any new/additional categories of employees including retired employees of EPFO who are otherwise ineligible for obtaining facilities under the CGHS.

Population suffering from various diseases

†1945. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of people suffering common diseases as well as serious diseases are constantly increasing in the country;

(b) if so, Government's assessment in this regard;

(c) what is the percentage of increase in the number of people suffering from both types of the diseases mentioned above during the last five years; and

(d) the number of such people during the years 2000-01 and 2004-05?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Unhealthy hospital equipments in Safdarjung Hospital

1946. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to Government's notice that cancer patients in Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi are being treated through outdated and rusty machines which are hazardous both to the patients and to the hospital staff;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken on the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) It is not a fact that cancer patients in Safdarjung Hospital are being treated through outdated and rusty machines. Cancer patients receive radiotherapy in the Theratron - 780C unit, which is fully functional. The Dosimeter is available in the Radiotherapy Department.

Under-nourished people in India

1947. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the estimated number of under-nourished people in the world is 852 million with India alone contributing 221 million;

(b) if so, the strategy of Government to tackle it; and

(c) if not, what concrete measures are required and how Government propose to monitor its implementation?